# **Preface**

The following appendix is intended to provide a general overview of the 44 disaster-impacted counties located in eastern North Carolina. The first section sets the stage as it relates to pre-disaster economic data/information such as primary employment sectors and unemployment rates. The second section provides a synopsis of the impact of the disaster on a given county's (municipality) infrastructure, disruption of business/industry and, if available, estimated losses.

It should also be noted that all data reported in this section was derived from surveys completed by local economic developers and consultants. All reported losses and estimates are very preliminary because at the time of this writing, data and assessments of damages were still underway, particularly in the most severely impacted counties.



## **Overview of Beaufort County**

Beaufort County is located in eastern North Carolina with a population of 43,468. Washington is Beaufort's largest town and county seat. The county is 11 feet above sea level. It has a total area of 958.36 square miles with land area of 827.47 square miles.

Beaufort County's primary employment sector is manufacturing, which accounts for 30.5 percent of its base, with service, retail trade businesses and government accounting for an additional 51.4 percent. All other categories account for the remaining 18.0 percent. The county's pre-disaster unemployment was 6.8 percent and the per capita income (PCI) was \$19,319.

## Synopsis of Disaster Impact

Beaufort County sustained substantial flooding throughout the county. Of the 1,067 businesses located in the county, only 96 businesses reported damages or disruption of operations. Most central business districts (CBDs) within the county reported minimal damage with one exception, the City of Washington.

#### **Business Disruptions**

The effects of the disaster on disruptions to business and industry varied. Larger manufacturing firms were better equipped to handle disruptions of production, transfer goods, and loss of labor supply than many of the smaller manufacturers. Numbers of jobs temporarily disrupted from one week to six weeks exceeds 250 jobs with an estimated net income stream loss of \$869,355.

## **Municipalities Impacted**

The City of Washington, Beaufort's largest town, was severely impacted. The majority (61 out of 96) of the businesses reporting damages in the county were located in Washington. Major flooding also impacted Washington's CBD. The towns of Aurora, Bath, Bellhaven, Chocowinity, and Pantego reported very little to no damage. There were no reports of damages to the CBDs of these small towns.

According to local officials, it will be  $2\frac{1}{2}$  years before Beaufort County returns to pre-disaster levels.

Population (1998)	43,468		
Unemployment rate (May 1999)	6.8%		
	Actual Number of Jobs	% Industry	Average Weekly Earnings
WORKFORCE BY INDUSTRY:			
Agriculture	432	2.3%	\$305
Construction	633	3.4%	\$459
Finance/Insurance/Real Estate	383	2.1%	\$648
Government	2,920	15.7%	\$474
Manufacturing	5,673	30.5%	\$546
Retail Trade	3,127	16.8%	\$275
Wholesale Trade	1,113	6.0%	\$475
Service	3,514	18.9%	\$380
Transportation/Communications/Public Utilities	775	4.2%	\$467
Workforce population (March 1998)	18,570	100%	
INCOME		NC Rank	
Gross Retail Sales (FY 97-98)	\$417,990,488	51	
Median Family Income (1998)	\$33,400	75	
Per Capita Income (1997)	\$19,319	56	

## **Overview of Bertie County**

Bertie County is located in northeastern North Carolina with a population of 20,102. Windsor is Bertie's largest town and county seat. The county is 10 feet above sea level. It has a total area of 741.27 square miles, with 698.88 square miles of land area.

Bertie County's primary employment sector is manufacturing, which accounts for 49.2 percent of its base, with government and service businesses accounting for an additional 30.6 percent. All other categories account for the remaining 20.2 percent. The county's predisaster unemployment was 4.9 percent and the per capita income (PCI) was \$16,472.

## Synopsis of Disaster Impact

Bertie County sustained substantial flooding in portions of the county. Several municipalities reported varying degrees of physical damages to property and infrastructure ranging from severe to minimal. Approximately 125 businesses reported damages with a majority located in the Town of Windsor.

#### **Municipalities Impacted**

The town of Bertie sustained major flooding. Over 90 percent of its businesses (112 businesses) reported some form disruption of daily operations. The town's entire central business district (CBD) flooded. Local officials expect a few to close permanently and the remaining businesses operational within a few months.

The towns of Askewville, Aulander, Leford, Lewiston-Woodville, Powellsville, and Roxobel all reported little to no damages to infrastructure or disruptions to local industries.

Population (1998)	20,102		
Unemployment rate (May 1999)	4.9%		
	Actual Number of Jobs	% Industry	Average Weekly Earnings
WORKFORCE BY INDUSTRY:			
Agriculture	298	4.2%	\$397
Construction	116	1.6%	\$386
Finance/Insurance/Real Estate	103	1.4%	\$580
Government	1,169	16.5%	\$458
Manufacturing	3,495	49.2%	\$362
Retail Trade	555	7.8%	\$229
Wholesale Trade	189	2.6%	\$433
Service	1,002	14.1%	\$267
Transportation/Communications/Public Utilities	182	2.6%	\$553
Workforce population (March 1998)	7,105	100%	
INCOME		NC Rank	
Gross Retail Sales (FY 97-98)	\$ 70,787,301	84	
Median Family Income (1998)	\$27,000	94	
Per Capita Income (1997)	\$16,472	93	

## **Overview of Bladen County**

Bladen County is located in southeastern North Carolina with a population of 30,551. Elizabethtown is Bladen's largest town and county seat. The county is 121 feet above sea level. It has a total area of 887.68 square miles, with 875.62 square miles of land area.

Bladen County's primary employment sector is manufacturing, which accounts for 48.5 percent of its base, with government, retail trade, and service businesses accounting for an additional 30.2 percent. All other categories account for the remaining 12.4 percent. The county's predisaster unemployment was 4.8 percent and the per capita income (PCI) was \$20,706.

## Synopsis of Disaster Impact

Bladen County sustained moderate flooding throughout portions of the county. Several municipalities reported varying degrees of physical damage to property and infrastructure. Major roads flooded and were impassible. Over 5,000 residents were without power or telephone service for several days.

#### **Business Disruptions**

The effects of the disaster on business and industry disruptions varied. A total of 32 businesses in the County reported estimated capital losses to facilities, equipment and inventory \$150,000, \$106,000, and \$426,000, respectively. Major flooding also impacted several central business districts (CBDs) throughout the county.

#### **Municipalities Impacted**

The town of Bladenboro was severely impacted. Three to four feet of water covered Bladenboro's CBD disrupting the operations of 28 businesses. Neighboring towns of Clarkton, Rowan and Elizabethtown reported minimal damages with all reporting one to two businesses impacted. The town of White Lake reported minimal infrastructure damage to its sewer system.

Population (1998)	30,551		
Unemployment rate (May 1999)	4.8%		
	Actual Number of Jobs	% Industry	Average Weekly Earnings
WORKFORCE BY INDUSTRY:			
Agriculture	649	4.8%	\$324
Construction	252	1.9%	\$413
Finance/Insurance/Real Estate	134	1.0%	\$368
Government	2,336	17.4%	\$463
Manufacturing	6,523	48.5%	\$399
Retail Trade	1,494	11.1%	\$253
Wholesale Trade	361	2.7%	\$427
Service	1,438	10.7%	\$315
Transportation/Communications/Public Utilities	271	2.0%	\$467
Workforce population (March 1998)	13,458	100%	
INCOME		NC Rank	
Gross Retail Sales (FY 97-98)	\$234,635,230	66	
Median Family Income (1998)	\$27,000	94	
Per Capita Income (1997)	\$20,706	33	

## **Overview of Brunswick County**

Brunswick County is located in southeastern North Carolina with a population of 67,441. Long Beach is Brunswick's largest town and Bolvia is the county seat. The county is 40 feet above sea level. It has a total area of 896.29 square miles, with 856.51 square miles of land area.

Brunswick County's primary employment sectors are retail trade, service and government, which accounts for 56.7 percent of its base, with manufacturing, construction, finance (insurance and real estate), and transportation (communications and public utilities) accounting for an additional 40.3 percent. All other categories account for the remaining 2.8. The county's pre-disaster unemployment was 3.1 percent and the per capita income (PCI) was \$17,978.

#### **Synopsis of Disaster Impact**

Brunswick County sustained moderate flooding throughout the county. Several municipalities reported varying degrees of physical damages to property and infrastructure ranging from severe to minimal. Major roads flooded and were impassible for days. A local hospital closed after its roof was blown off.

#### **Business Disruptions**

Hurricane Floyd caused severe economic losses to the tourism industry of Brunswick County. Countywide, a total of 48 businesses were adversely impacted primarily in the service and retail trade sectors. The commercial fishing business was hit hard. Over 100 fishing boats and buildings were damaged.

## **Municipalities Impacted**

The Shallotte River flooded the town of Shallotte. The downtown area was under 5 feet of water and impacted 20 businesses located within its central business district (CBD). In other parts of the county, Southport reported 10 businesses impacted by the storm. Two businesses, including the fishing pier, were damaged in Ocean Isle Beach. On Oak Island (Long Beach, Yaupon Beach, and Caswell Beach), nine businesses reported damages. An additional three businesses reported losses on Bald Head Island.

Population (1998)	67,441		
Unemployment rate (May 1999)	3.1%		
	Actual Number of Jobs	% Industry	Average Weekly Earnings
WORKFORCE BY INDUSTRY:			
Agriculture	315	1.5%	\$319
Construction	1,956	9.3%	\$416
Finance/Insurance/Real Estate	1,711	8.1%	\$333
Government	3,680	17.5%	\$481
Manufacturing	2,820	13.4%	\$740
Retail Trade	4,660	22.2%	\$238
Wholesale Trade	275	1.3%	\$407
Service	3,576	17.0%	\$365
Transportation/Communications/Public Utilities	2,003	9.5%	\$873
Workforce population (March 1998)	21,009	100%	
INCOME		NC Rank	
Gross Retail Sales (FY 97-98)	\$681,491,035	36	
Median Family Income (1998)	\$35,429	59	
Per Capita Income (1997)	\$17,978	76	

## **Overview of Camden County**

Camden County is located in eastern North Carolina with a population of 6,320. South Mills is Camden's largest town and Camden is the county seat. The county is 10 feet above sea level. It has a total area of 305.56 square miles, with 239.85 square miles of land area.

Camden County's primary employment sectors are government and retail trade, which accounts for 49.1 percent of its base, with service and construction accounting for an additional 32.2 percent. All other categories account for the remaining 18.7 percent. The county's predisaster unemployment was 2.3 percent and the per capita income (PCI) was \$ 18,232.

## Synopsis of Disaster Impact

Camden County reported very minimal infrastructure damage. According to local officials, businesses and industry resumed operations once the storm passed and debris was removed.

Population (1998)	6,320		
Unemployment rate (May 1999)	2.3%		
	Actual Number of Jobs	% Industry	Average Weekly Earnings
WORKFORCE BY INDUSTRY:			
Agriculture	71	5.1%	\$433
Construction	201	14.5%	\$402
Finance/Insurance/Real Estate	33	2.4%	\$388
Government	360	25.9%	\$453
Manufacturing	56	4.0%	\$295
Retail Trade	323	23.2%	\$231
Wholesale Trade	51	3.7%	\$533
Service	246	17.7%	\$376
Transportation/Communications/Public Utilities	48	3.5%	\$450
Workforce population (March 1998)	1,390	100%	
INCOME		NC Rank	
Gross Retail Sales (FY 97-98)	\$20,818,301	99	
Median Family Income (1998)	\$37,100	48	
Per Capita Income (1997)	\$18,232	73	

## **Overview of Carteret County**

Carteret County is located in eastern North Carolina with a population of 59,881. Morehead City is Carteret's largest town and Beaufort is the county seat. The county is 9 feet above sea level. It has a total area of 1049.77 square miles, with 524.09 square miles of land area.

Carteret County's primary employment sector is retail trade businesses, which accounts for 31.7 percent of its economic base, with government and service businesses accounting for an additional 37.4 percent. All other categories account for the remaining 30.8 percent. The county's pre-disaster unemployment was 2.9 percent and the per capita income (PCI) was \$20,798.

#### Synopsis of Disaster Impact

Carteret County reported minimal damage throughout the County; however, the storm eroded a considerable amount of its beaches. On average, 20 feet of beach and in some areas, up to 40 percent of beach eroded during the storm. The reported loss of revenue and tax base as a result of beach erosion on Carteret's economy has been estimated in excess of \$2 million. Presently, 43 percent of the county's tax base is generated from tourists visiting Bogue Banks.

While the County was spared the devastating flooding that other neighboring counties experienced, local officials expect to see the impacts from lost tax base and lost tourism dollars within the next year. Long-term, there is some degree of concern regarding public perception of the area as disaster prone and the ability of the county to attract business and industry.

Population (1998)	59,881		
Unemployment rate (May 1999)	2.9%		
	Actual Number of Jobs	% Industry	Average Weekly Earnings
WORKFORCE BY INDUSTRY:			
Agriculture	361	1.6%	\$320
Construction	1,532	6.8%	\$438
Finance/Insurance/Real Estate	1,221	5.4%	\$389
Government	4,075	18.1%	\$493
Manufacturing	1,996	8.9%	\$366
Retail Trade	7,114	31.7%	\$237
Wholesale Trade	893	4.0%	\$344
Service	4,335	19.3%	\$322
Transportation/Communications/Public Utilities	919	4.1%	\$448
Workforce population (March 1998)	22,452	100%	
INCOME		NC Rank	
Gross Retail Sales (FY 97-98)	\$743,755,717	33	
Median Family Income (1998)	\$40,000	36	
Per Capita Income (1997)	\$20,798	31	

## **Overview of Chowan County**

Chowan County is located in northeastern North Carolina with a population of 14,325. Edenton is Chowan's largest town and county seat. The county is 16 feet above sea level. It has a total area of 233.35 square miles, with 172.75 square miles of land area.

Chowan County's primary employment sectors are retail trade and government, which accounts for 56.9 percent of its base, with service and construction accounting for an additional 24.8 percent. All other categories account for the remaining 18.2 percent. The county's predisaster unemployment was 2.6 percent and the per capita income (PCI) was \$20,109.

## Synopsis of Disaster Impact

Chowan County sustained minimal damage to infrastructure and physical property due to flooding and high wind. The town of Edenton reported minimal damages to its wastewater treatment that flooded during the storm.

Population (1998)	59,881		
Unemployment rate (May 1999)	2.9%		
	Actual Number of Jobs	% Industry	Average Weekly Earnings
WORKFORCE BY INDUSTRY:			
Agriculture	361	1.6%	\$320
Construction	1,532	6.8%	\$438
Finance/Insurance/Real Estate	1,221	5.4%	\$389
Government	4,075	18.1%	\$493
Manufacturing	1,996	8.9%	\$366
Retail Trade	7,114	31.7%	\$237
Wholesale Trade	893	4.0%	\$344
Service	4,335	19.3%	\$322
Transportation/Communications/Public Utilities	919	4.1%	\$448
Workforce population (March 1998)	22,452	100%	
INCOME		NC Rank	
Gross Retail Sales (FY 97-98)	\$743,755,717	33	
Median Family Income (1998)	\$40,000	36	
Per Capita Income (1997)	\$20,798	31	

## **Overview of Columbus County**

Columbus County is located in southeastern North Carolina with a population of 52,261. Whiteville is Columbus' largest town and county seat. The county is 59 feet above sea level. It has a total area of 953.11 square miles, with 936.87 square miles of land area.

Columbus County's primary employment sectors are manufacturing and service, which accounts for 50.9 percent of its base, with government and retail trade businesses accounting for an additional 36.7 percent. All other categories account for the remaining 12.4 percent. The county's pre-disaster unemployment was 7.2 percent and the per capita income (PCI) was \$19,332.

## Synopsis of Disaster Impact

Columbus County sustained moderate damages throughout the county due to flooding and high winds. Two sections of US Highway 701 were closed due to flooding. Over 26,000 customers were without power and telephone service for days. All natural waterways were closed to boats and other water vessels.

Several municipalities reported business disruptions ranging from severe to minimal. Flooding in the Town of Whiteville's central business district (CBD) impacted 40 businesses. Similar reports of flooding occurred in the towns of Acme, Delco, and Riegelwood.

Population (1998)	52,261		
Unemployment rate (May 1999)	7.2%		
	Actual Number of Jobs	% Industry	Average Weekly Earnings
WORKFORCE BY INDUSTRY:			
Agriculture	308	1.7%	\$402
Construction	826	4.5%	\$427
Finance/Insurance/Real Estate	351	1.9%	\$372
Government	3,488	19.1%	\$454
Manufacturing	5,077	27.9%	\$587
Retail Trade	3,199	17.6%	\$274
Wholesale Trade	469	2.6%	\$421
Service	4,182	23.0%	\$355
Transportation/Communications/Public Utilities	315	1.7%	\$532
Workforce population (March 1998)	18,216	100%	
INCOME		NC Rank	
Gross Retail Sales (FY 97-98)	\$455,158,239	50	
Median Family Income (1998)	\$29,800	88	
Per Capita Income (1997)	\$19,332	55	

## Overview of Craven County

Craven County is located in eastern North Carolina with a population of 89,546. New Bern is Craven's largest town and county seat. The county is 12 feet above sea level. It has a total area of 761.39 square miles, with 695.41 square miles of land area.

Craven County's primary employment sector are government and service businesses, which accounts for 54.3 percent of its base, with retail trade and manufacturing businesses accounting for an additional 30.2 percent. All other categories account for the remaining 15.5 percent. The County's pre-disaster unemployment was 6.8 percent and the per capita income (PCI) was \$20,747.

#### Synopsis of Disaster Impact

Craven County sustained moderate flooding throughout the county with retail trade and service sectors taking the hardest hit. The estimated capital losses to facilities and equipment were reported at \$300,000 and \$150,000 respectively. There were no known manufacturing or distribution facilities impacted by the flood. On average, businesses operations were disrupted from a week to 10 days. According to local officials, it will take two years for Craven County to recover to predisaster levels in the areas of agriculture, tourism, fisheries, and small business retail.

Population (1998)	89,546		
Unemployment rate (May 1999)	4.1%		
	Actual Number of Jobs	% Industry	Average Weekly Earnings
WORKFORCE BY INDUSTRY:			
Agriculture	495	1.3%	\$275
Construction	2,073	5.3%	\$455
Finance/Insurance/Real Estate	1,032	2.7%	\$531
Government	13,607	35.1%	\$616
Manufacturing	5,001	12.9%	\$585
Retail Trade	6,693	17.3%	\$255
Wholesale Trade	1,086	2.8%	\$552
Service	7,446	19.2%	\$404
Transportation/Communications/Public Utilities	1,325	3.4%	\$553
Workforce population (March 1998)	38,782	100%	
INCOME		NC Rank	
Gross Retail Sales (FY 97-98)	\$804,973,188	30	
Median Family Income (1998)	\$40,100	34	
Per Capita Income (1997)	\$20,747	32	

## **Overview of Cumberland County**

Cumberland County is located in southeastern North Carolina with a population of 295,053. Fayetteville is Cumberland's largest town and county seat. The county is 107 feet above sea level. It has a total area of 658.11 square miles, with 652.43 square miles of land area.

Cumberland County's primary employment sectors are government, retail trade and service, which accounts for 70.8 percent of its base, with manufacturing accounting for an additional 11.8 percent. All other categories account for the remaining 17.2 percent. The county's predisaster unemployment was 3.5 percent and the per capita income (PCI) was \$20,219.

#### Synopsis of Disaster Impact

Cumberland County sustained moderate damage throughout the county due to flooding and high winds. At the height of the storm, 30,000-35,000 customers were without electric power due to downed lines. According to local officials, 350 buildings, including residents were damaged. In Fayetteville, 24 businesses reported damages ranging from moderate to severe.

Population (1998)	295,053		
Unemployment rate (May 1999)	3.5%		
	Actual Number of Jobs	% Industry	Average Weekly Earnings
WORKFORCE BY INDUSTRY:			
Agriculture	766	0.7%	\$307
Construction	5,600	5.3%	\$441
Finance/Insurance/Real Estate	3,847	3.6%	\$523
Government	29,697	28.1%	\$563
Manufacturing	12,475	11.8%	\$670
Retail Trade	24,650	23.4%	\$283
Wholesale Trade	3,744	3.5%	\$523
Service	20,387	19.3%	\$387
Transportation/Communications/Public Utilities	4,344	4.1%	\$527
Workforce population (March 1998)	105,511	100%	
INCOME		NC Rank	
Gross Retail Sales (FY 97-98)	\$2,852,525,221	7	
Median Family Income (1998)	\$35,796	57	
Per Capita Income (1997)	\$20,219	41	

## **Overview of Currituck County**

Currituck County is located in eastern North Carolina with a population of 16,947. Shawboro is Currituck's largest town and county seat. The county is 8 feet above sea level. It has a total area of 443.63 square miles, with 261.4 square miles of land area.

Currituck County's primary employment sectors are retail trade and government, which accounts for 56.9 percent of its base, with service and construction accounting for an additional 24.8 percent. All other categories account for the remaining 18.2 percent. The county's predisaster unemployment was 1.4 percent and the per capita income (PCI) was \$20,109.

## Synopsis of Disaster Impact

Currituck County sustained minimal infrastructure damage due to flooding; however, Hurricane Floyd had a major impact on tourism. Evacuation of areas caused a loss of revenue particularly in the retail trade and service employment sectors. On average, businesses reported disruption of operations for one to two weeks.

Population (1998)	16,947		
Unemployment rate (May 1999)	1.4%		
	Actual Number of Jobs	% Industry	Average Weekly Earnings
WORKFORCE BY INDUSTRY:			
Agriculture	168	4.5%	\$414
Construction	414	11.1%	\$468
Finance/Insurance/Real Estate	259	6.9%	\$322
Government	1,031	27.6%	\$472
Manufacturing	88	2.4%	\$391
Retail Trade	1,097	29.3%	\$259
Wholesale Trade	84	2.2%	\$451
Service	514	13.7%	\$268
Transportation/Communications/Public Utilities	84	2.2%	\$240
Workforce population (March 1998)	3,739	100%	
INCOME		NC Rank	
Gross Retail Sales (FY 97-98)	\$181,040,385	74	
Median Family Income (1998)	\$40,409	32	
Per Capita Income (1997)	\$20,109	43	

## **Overview of Dare County**

Dare County is located in northeastern North Carolina with a total population of 28,218. Kill Devil Hills is Dare's largest town and Manteo is the county seat. The county is 12 feet above sea level. It has a total area of 1248.57 square miles, with 383.55 square miles of land area.

Dare County's primary employment sector is retail trade and service, which accounts for 58.7 percent of its base, with finance (insurance and real estate) and government accounting for an additional 25.1 percent. All other categories account for the remaining 15.5 percent. The county's pre-disaster unemployment was 1.9 percent and the per capita income (PCI) was \$21,624.

## Synopsis of Disaster Impact

Dare County sustained moderate damages throughout the county with most occurring as a result of soundside flooding and downed trees due to high winds. Several municipalities reported minimal infrastructure and property damage. The initial dollar estimate of damages total \$4 million.

#### **Municipalities Impacted**

Nags Head reported five businesses had major damage, including three motels deemed uninhabitable as a result of major roof damage. In other portions of the county, towns reported very minimal damages to local businesses. In the unincorporated areas of the county (Duck, Martin's Point, Colington, Kill Devil Hills), several businesses were assessed with major damages and several others with minor water or roof damage.

Population (1998)	28,218		
Unemployment rate (May 1999)	1.9%		
	Actual Number of Jobs	% Industry	Average Weekly Earnings
WORKFORCE BY INDUSTRY:			
Agriculture	123	0.7%	\$265
Construction	1,319	7.7%	\$423
Finance/Insurance/Real Estate	1,832	10.7%	\$376
Government	2,460	14.4%	\$491
Manufacturing	574	3.4%	\$420
Retail Trade	6,600	38.7%	\$261
Wholesale Trade	382	2.2%	\$413
Service	3,409	20.0%	\$286
Transportation/Communications/Public Utilities	366	2.1%	\$603
Workforce population (March 1998)	17,066	100%	
INCOME		NC Rank	
Gross Retail Sales (FY 97-98)	\$800,061,867	31	
Median Family Income (1998)	\$42,900	20	
Per Capita Income (1997)	\$21,624	25	

## **Overview of Duplin County**

Duplin County is located in southeastern North Carolina with a population of 44,639. Wallace is Duplin's largest town and Kenansville is the county seat. The county is 127 feet above sea level. It has a total area of 819.24 square miles, with 817.98 square miles of land area.

Duplin County's primary employment sector is manufacturing, which accounts for 34.4 percent of its base, with agriculture, government, and retail trade businesses accounting for an additional 45.7 percent. All other categories account for the remaining 19.9 percent. The county's pre-disaster unemployment was 6.0 percent and the per capita income (PCI) was \$24,533.

## Synopsis of Disaster Impact

Duplin County sustained substantial flooding throughout the county. Major roads such as Interstate 40 and NC 24 were flooded as well as several bridges. Power outages were reported for varying lengths of time from 24 to 48 hours; some hard hit areas were without power for longer lengths of time. Several municipalities reported infrastructure damages to include wastewater treatment plant and drainage problems ranging from severe to minimal.

#### **Business Disruptions**

Hurricane Floyd had a dramatic impact on Duplin County's business climate with a total of 425 businesses reporting some form of disruption to its operations. While most industries came through with minimal damage, the impact of the disaster definitely impacted the potential for future revenue streams for both industry and the Duplin County. Companies that were not damaged lost considerable production time since so many roads were closed due to high water or washouts. Several companies absorbed additional freight costs to have goods shipped by air than over the road for more than four weeks. Many small businesses were impacted to the degree that reopening is unlikely. Duplin County estimated 8,260 temporary job losses, income stream losses of \$10.2 million, and a loss of \$1.2 millionin retail sales. Losses do not include agricultural jobs/industries that are typically self-employed.

Population (1998)	44,639		
Unemployment rate (May 1999)	6.0%		
	Actual Number of Jobs	% Industry	Average Weekly Earnings
WORKFORCE BY INDUSTRY:			
Agriculture	3,508	17.5%	\$430
Construction	822	4.1%	\$354
Finance/Insurance/Real Estate	250	1.2%	\$461
Government	3,089	15.4%	\$421
Manufacturing	6,915	34.4%	\$441
Retail Trade	2,568	12.8%	\$236
Wholesale Trade	647	3.2%	\$540
Service	1,889	9.5%	\$334
Transportation/Communications/Public Utilities	379	1.9%	\$560
Workforce population (March 1998)	20,079	100%	
INCOME		NC Rank	
Gross Retail Sales (FY 97-98)	\$330,493,297	58	
Median Family Income (1998)	\$31,500	81	
Per Capita Income (1997)	\$24,533	11	

Source: NC Department of Commerce, Economic Policy and Research Division

### **Municipalities Impacted**

The towns of Wallace, Magnolia, Greenevers, and Faison all reported sewer system and drainage problems. The Town of Rose Hill reported water system problems. Several central business districts (CBDs) within Duplin either flooded or sustained damages. The towns of Wallace, Magnolia, and Harrells all reported damages to its CBD with numbers totaling 50, 10, and 8, respectively.

According to local officials, Duplin County's economic recovery will not happen overnight. Economic impacts from Hurricane Floyd will be felt for at least five years as the county is still recovering from Hurricane Fran. Moreover, there is great concern that all of eastern North Carolina will be perceived as a flood/hurricane zone, which will ultimately determine the potential for future economic development.

## **Overview of Edgecombe County**

Edgecombe County is located in eastern North Carolina with a population of 54,872. Rocky Mount is Edgecombe's largest town and Tarboro is the county seat. The county is 54 feet above sea level. It has a total area of 506.7 square miles, with 505.17 square miles of land area.

Edgecombe County's primary employment sectors are government and manufacturing, which accounts for 44.2 percent of its base, with retail trade and service businesses accounting for an additional 30.4 percent. All other categories account for the remaining 25.2 percent. The county's pre-disaster unemployment was 7.1 percent and the per capita income (PCI) was \$17,961.

### Synopsis of the Disaster Impact

Edgecombe County sustained substantial damages throughout the county with several municipalities reporting major damages to businesses and infrastructure in excess of \$66 million dollars.

### **Municipalities** Impacted

In the city of Tarboro, the wastewater treatment plant flooded and an estimated 48 businesses in the central business district (CBD) (service and retail trade) were adversely impacted. The City of Princeville's sewer collection system failed as the town was inundated with 15 feet of water. All 33 businesses in Princeville were destroyed. Several businesses in Rocky Mount, primarily service and retail were impacted, however, none were located within the central business district.

Population (1998)	54,872		
Unemployment rate (May 1999)	7.1%		
	Actual Number of Jobs	% Industry	Average Weekly Earnings
WORKFORCE BY INDUSTRY:			
Agriculture	627	2.6%	\$294
Construction	2,248	9.4%	\$620
Finance/Insurance/Real Estate	422	1.8%	\$537
Government	4,828	20.2%	\$475
Manufacturing	5,757	24.0%	\$481
Retail Trade	3,148	13.1%	\$262
Wholesale Trade	870	3.6%	\$762
Service	4,139	17.3%	\$367
Transportation/Communications/Public Utilities	1,875	7.8%	\$732
Workforce population (March 1998)	23,943	100%	
INCOME		NC Rank	
Gross Retail Sales (FY 97-98)	\$463,538,518	49	
Median Family Income (1998)	\$35,381	60	
Per Capita Income (1997)	\$17,961	77	

## **Overview of Franklin County**

Franklin County is located in eastern North Carolina with a population of 44,414. Louisburg is Franklin's largest town and the county seat. The county is 280 feet above sea level. It has a total area of 494.82 square miles, with 492.25 square miles of land area.

Franklin County's primary employment sectors are government, manufacturing, service, and retail trade, which accounts for 80.5 percent of its base, with construction accounting for an additional 7.5 percent. All other categories account for the remaining 11.9 percent. The county's pre-disaster unemployment was 2.6 percent and the per capita income (PCI) was \$18,197.

## Synopsis of Disaster Impact

Franklin County reported very minimal damages to infrastructure due to flooding and high winds. Business and industry resumed operations once the storm passed and debris was removed.

Population (1998)	44,414		
Unemployment rate (May 1999)	2.6%		
	Actual Number of Jobs	% Industry	Average Weekly Earnings
WORKFORCE BY INDUSTRY:			
Agriculture	368	3.8%	\$307
Construction	730	7.5%	\$411
Finance/Insurance/Real Estate	114	1.2%	\$439
Government	2,182	22.5%	\$478
Manufacturing	2,179	22.5%	\$592
Retail Trade	1,511	15.6%	\$335
Wholesale Trade	418	4.3%	\$490
Service	1,928	19.9%	\$342
Transportation/Communications/Public Utilities	254	2.6%	\$613
Workforce population (March 1998)	9,700	100%	
INCOME		NC Rank	
Gross Retail Sales (FY 97-98)	\$258,262,917	63	
Median Family Income (1998)	\$40,181	33	
Per Capita Income (1997)	\$18,197	74	

## **Overview of Gates County**

Gates County is located in northeastern North Carolina with a population of 9,986. Gatesville is Gates' largest town and the county seat. The county is 40 feet above sea level. It has a total area of 345.69 square miles, with 340.67 square miles of land area.

Gates County's primary employment sector is government, which accounts for 38.7 percent of its base, with retail trade, manufacturing, and service businesses accounting for an additional 39.7 percent. All other categories account for the remaining 21.3 percent. The county's pre-disaster unemployment was 2.3 percent and the per capita income (PCI) was \$16,626.

#### Synopsis of Disaster Impact

Gates County reported minimal infrastructure damages due to flooding and high winds. Business and industry resumed operations once the storm passed and debris was removed.

Population (1998)	9,986		
Unemployment rate (May 1999)	2.3%		
	Actual Number of Jobs	% Industry	Average Weekly Earnings
WORKFORCE BY INDUSTRY:			
Agriculture	125	7.5%	\$301
Construction	29	1.8%	\$607
Finance/Insurance/Real Estate	38	2.3%	\$398
Government	642	38.7%	\$461
Manufacturing	193	11.6%	\$459
Retail Trade	259	15.6%	\$193
Wholesale Trade	102	6.2%	\$424
Service	207	12.5%	\$317
Transportation/Communications/Public Utilities	58	3.5%	\$446
Workforce population (March 1998)	1,657	100%	
INCOME		NC Rank	
Gross Retail Sales (FY 97-98)	\$51,278,464	93	
Median Family Income (1998)	\$37,300	47	
Per Capita Income (1997)	\$16,626	91	

## **Overview of Greene County**

Greene County is located in eastern North Carolina with a population of 18,071. Snow Hill is Greene's largest town and county seat. The county is 74 feet above sea level. It has a total area of 266.33 square miles, with 265.87 square miles of land area.

Greene County's primary employment sectors are government and service businesses, which accounts for 49.4 percent of its base, with agriculture, manufacturing, and retail trade businesses accounting for an additional 36.3 percent. All other categories account for the remaining 14.3 percent. The county's pre-disaster unemployment was 5.3 percent and the per capita income (PCI) was \$19,043.

## Synopsis of Disaster Impact

Greene County sustained substantial flooding throughout the county. Infrastructure damages reported consisted primarily of roads, water line damages and major sewer system problems. Drainage problems and power outages were widespread.

#### **Business Disruptions**

Countywide a reported 425 businesses were affected by the storm, primarily in retail trade and service employment sectors. Little or no physical damage to facilities or equipment was reported. Local officials did not report a temporary loss of jobs, income stream losses, or loss of retail sales.

#### **Municipalities** Impacted

Greene County's largest town, Snow Hill, was hardest hit. In addition to its wastewater treatment plan flooding, several of the town's water lines were damaged and roadways washed out. Snow Hill reported five businesses in its central business district (CBD) reported some form of damage and/or disruptions of their operations.

The Town of Hookerton reported minimal physical damages. Hookerton escaped any major damage or disruption in operations, including the CBD. The town's sewer pump stations experienced problems due to loss of electricity.

Population (1998)	18,071		
Unemployment rate (May 1999)	5.3%		
	Actual Number of Jobs	% Industry	Average Weekly Earnings
WORKFORCE BY INDUSTRY:			
Agriculture	445	11.2%	\$275
Construction	239	6.0%	\$400
Finance/Insurance/Real Estate	46	1.2%	\$427
Government	1,311	33.1%	\$475
Manufacturing	550	13.9%	\$446
Retail Trade	442	11.2%	\$248
Wholesale Trade	251	6.3%	\$341
Service	645	16.3%	\$608
Transportation/Communications/Public Utilities	32	0.8%	\$587
Workforce population (March 1998)	3,961	100%	
INCOME		NC Rank	
Gross Retail Sales (FY 97-98)	\$59,018,411	92	
Median Family Income (1998)	\$ 35,000	61	
Per Capita Income (1997)	\$ 19,043	58	

## **Overview of Halifax County**

Halifax County is located in eastern North Carolina with a population of 55,182. Roanoke Rapids is Halifax's largest town and Halifax is the county seat. The county is 135 feet above sea level. It has a total area of 731.25 square miles, with 725.75 square miles of land area.

Halifax County's primary employment sectors are government, manufacturing and retail trade businesses, which accounts for 69.1 percent of its base, with service businesses accounting for an additional 16 percent. All other categories account for the remaining 14.7 percent. The county's pre-disaster unemployment was 6.8 percent and the per capita income (PCI) was \$16,882.

## Synopsis of Disaster Impact

Halifax County sustained moderate damage throughout the county with estimated cost in excess of \$20 million dollars (mostly revenue). Several municipalities reported major roads and bridges flooded and/or washed out, which will have an economic impact for some time to come. For one week, most businesses closed due to power outages and no telephone service, which resulted in a loss of revenue for both existing business and the County.

## **Municipalities Impacted**

Several municipalities reported damages ranging from severe to minimal. The town of Scotland Neck was without water for two weeks as the storm wiped out the southern end of the county's water line. The Fishing Creek Bridge on Highway 301 washed out. Four businesses in its central business district (CBD) were adversely impacted by the storm and 137 commercial businesses were without electricity for days.

The town of Halifax, the county seat, was hard hit in its historic district and downtown CBD. US Highway 301, just north of town, washed away and will be closed for eight months. Also, a nearby railroad tressel was destroyed.

The town of Enfield reported 10 businesses located in its downtown CBD sustained damages in excess of \$500,000.

One of the town of Weldon's sewer lift stations flooded and its wastewater treatment plant lost power for three days. The loss of power also caused several businesses to close operations from 1 to 3 days. To

Population (1998)	55,182		
Unemployment rate (May 1999)	6.8%		
	Actual Number of Jobs	% Industry	Average Weekly Earnings
WORKFORCE BY INDUSTRY:			
Agriculture	501	2.6%	\$295
Construction	656	3.4%	\$476
Finance/Insurance/Real Estate	541	2.8%	\$508
Government	4,948	25.9%	\$480
Manufacturing	4,137	21.7%	\$584
Retail Trade	4,107	21.5%	\$254
Wholesale Trade	568	3.0%	\$431
Service	3,060	16.0%	\$321
Transportation/Communications/Public Utilities	553	2.9%	\$593
Workforce population (March 1998)	19,071	100%	
INCOME		NC Rank	
Gross Retail Sales (FY 97-98)	\$514,216,651	43	
Median Family Income (1998)	\$29,400	90	
Per Capita Income (1997)	\$16,882	89	

Source: NC Department of Commerce, Economic Policy and Research Division

exacerbate the situation, traffic rerouted off of I-95 created additional loss of revenue for the town.

The towns of Hobgood and Littleton reported no major damage to businesses and only minor damage, limited to downed trees and utility lines. The City of Roanoke Rapids reported a number of roads washed out, however, none of its businesses were directly impacted.

## **Overview of Hardnett County**

Hardnett County is located in eastern North Carolina with a population of 83,411. Dunn is Hardnett's largest town and Lillington is the county seat. The county is 325 feet above sea level. It has a total area of 601.18 square miles, with 594.93 square miles of land area.

Hardnett County's primary employment sectors are manufacturing, retail trade, government, and service, which accounts for 81 percent of its base, with construction and wholesale trade accounting for an additional 11.7 percent. All other categories account for the remaining 4.1 percent. The county's pre-disaster unemployment was 3.0 percent and the per capita income was \$17,597.

## Synopsis of Disaster Impact

Hardnett County reported minimal damages due to flooding and high winds. At the height of the storm, half of the county was without electric power and telephone service due to downed lines. Several roads, including secondary roads, were washed out. The heaviest damage occurred in the town of Dunn with 59 businesses impacted.

Population (1998)	83,411		
Unemployment rate (May 1999)	3.0%		
	Actual Number of Jobs	% Industry	Average Weekly Earnings
WORKFORCE BY INDUSTRY:			
Agriculture	547	2.4%	\$276
Construction	1,645	7.2%	\$432
Finance/Insurance/Real Estate	676	2.9%	\$427
Government	4,369	19.0%	\$510
Manufacturing	5,850	25.5%	\$499
Retail Trade	4,266	18.6%	\$277
Wholesale Trade	1,021	4.5%	\$517
Service	4,104	17.9%	\$377
Transportation/Communications/Public Utilities	380	1.7%	\$579
Workforce population (March 1998)	22,943	100%	
INCOME		NC Rank	
Gross Retail Sales (FY 97-98)	\$508,612,759	44	
Median Family Income (1998)	\$308,012,739	58	
Per Capita Income (1997)	\$17,597	81	